

INVENTORY OF SEEDS AND PLANTS IMPORTED BY THE OFFICE OF FOREIGN SEED AND PLANT IN- TRODUCTION DURING THE PERIOD FROM JAN- UARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1920 (NO. 62; NOS. 49124 TO 49796).

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT.

During the period of three months covered by this inventory, Wilson Popenoe, Agricultural Explorer for this office, was exploring and collecting living plant material in the region of the city of Guatemala, Coban, Tucuru, Antigua, and El Barranquillo in the Republic of Guatemala, and Dr. H. L. Shantz, as Agricultural Explorer attached to the Smithsonian Expedition, was exploring and collecting in Mozambique, East Africa, Northern Rhodesia, and the Belgian Kongo. Inasmuch as both of these explorers are experienced travelers and especially familiar with American agriculture, what they collected has unusual value.

Of Mr. Popenoe's introductions described here, the following appear at this time of particular interest:

The large-fruited subtropical hawthorn (*Crataegus stipulosa*, No. 49145), which is used for jellies and preserves, reminds us of Frank N. Meyer's discovery and introduction of the large grafted Chinese haws which have grown well in this country. The pacaya palm (*Chamaedorea* sp., No. 49325) has an inflorescence which is used extensively as a salad in Guatemala. The two superior varieties of the coyó (*Persea schiedeana*, Nos. 49329 and 49330), a close relative of the avocado, represent a fruit new to horticulture and one of great value for tropical and subtropical regions; these fruits, according to Mr. Popenoe, have even a better flavor than the avocado. The three remarkable tropical blackberries (*Rubus* spp., 49331 to 49333) from Alta Vera Paz ought at least to be valuable for breeding purposes. An entirely new species of Annona (*A. scleroderma*, No. 49371), called the "posh," has a thick, hard-shelled fruit and ought to make a good shipper; its delicious snow-white flesh, which is more acid and sprightly than that of the sugar-apple, should make it popular. The ochoy (*Paspalum fasciculatum*, No. 49401) and the "hotz kor" (*Chaetochloa paniculifera*, No. 49372) are considered among the best pasture grasses of Guatemala and since they are adapted to moist regions should be available for trial on the Everglades; and the "kos-kún" (*Pennisetum complanatum*, No. 49763), a most important grass from Antigua, may also thrive there. Other interesting plants listed here with Mr. Popenoe's careful descriptions include an undetermined species of walnut from Alta Vera